

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/829,062

Examiner

Gary F Paumen

Applicant(s)

WU, JERRY

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

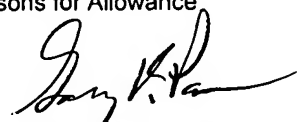
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



Gary Paumen
Primary Examiner

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Wei Te Chung on August 6, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Page 1, lines 1-2, "patent application Serial No. 10/660,315 filed on September 10, 2003" has been changed to – Patent No. 6,830,472 issued December 14, 2004 --; lines 3-4, "patent application Serial No. 10/665,060 filed on September 17, 2003" has been changed to – Patent No. 6,821,139 issued November 23, 2004 --.

Claims 2-14 and 16-20 have been canceled.

Claim 1, last line, the period has been changed to a semicolon and the following paragraphs have been inserted thereafter:

-- wherein the pressing portion of the locking member defines a pair of spaced grooves permitting one end of the pull tape to pass therethrough and wrap a portion therebetween, thereby forming the interconnecting portion of the pull tape;

wherein the pressing portion of the locking member forms a plurality of ribs thereon, and one of the ribs is located between the two grooves;

wherein the cover comprises a body portion enclosing the rear end of the housing and a protective sleeve perpendicularly extending from a bottom of the

body portion, the protective sleeve enclosing the joint portions of the conductors of the cable and the contacts, and wherein the channel is defined in the body portion;

wherein the body portion of the cover comprises a top wall, a bottom wall opposite to the top wall, and a rear wall connecting and extending between the upper and the bottom walls, and wherein the channel of the cover consists of a first channel defined through the top wall and a second channel defined through the rear wall in communication with the first channel;

wherein the top wall of the cover forms a holding bar dividing the first channel into two sections, and wherein the pressing portion moves toward the cover until contacting the holding bar when the pull tape is rearwardly pulled;

wherein the pull tape extends away from the cover in a direction perpendicular to that of the cable;

wherein each contact comprises a contact portion, a retention portion rearwardly extending from the contact portion, and a tail portion perpendicularly bent from the retention portion and exposed outside a rear end of the insulative housing;

wherein the insulative housing comprises a pair of wing portions extending rearwardly from a rear end thereof;

wherein each wing portion of the insulative housing defines a cutout, and wherein the pressing portion of the locking member comprises a pair of side beams extending vertically from opposite ends thereof, each side beam forms a spring tab engaged in the cutout of the wing portion;

Art Unit: 2833

wherein the locking member comprises a retaining portion at a front end thereof secured to the insulative housing and a supporting portion at a rear end thereof secured to the cover, the pressing portion is formed between the retaining portion and the supporting portion, the latch portion is located close to the retaining portion;

wherein the insulative housing defines a gap receiving the retaining portion of the locking member;

wherein the insulative housing defines a first slot communicating with the gap, and wherein the retaining portion of the locking member forms a positioning tab extending forwardly from a front end thereof and being received within the first slot;

wherein the insulative housing defines a second slot communicating with the gap, and wherein the retaining portion of the locking member forms a snap tab extending rearwardly from the front end and being received with the second slot.

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Claim 15, last line, the period has been changed to a semicolon and the following paragraphs have been inserted thereafter:

-- wherein said first lateral direction is the same as the second lateral direction;

wherein said cable extends in a third lateral direction perpendicular to said front-to-back direction;

wherein said rearward force is essentially aligned with said mating portion in said front-to-back direction;

wherein said pull device is directly connected to the locking member. --.


The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record discloses or teaches all of the specifics of the pull device.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary F Paumen whose telephone number is 571-272-2013. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800, ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Gary Paumen
Primary Examiner